



REQUEST UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

April 7, 2003

Applicant: Hiroaki KITAMOTO

For: CAPPING METHOD AND APPARATUS

Serial No.: 09/777 378 Group: 3721

Confirmation No.: 8381

Filed: February 6, 2001 Examiner: Nash

Atty. Docket No.: Kanzaki Case 161

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 13, 2003,
Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that the Information Disclosure Statement identified as an enclosed document filed with the application is not found in the application. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the postal card from the Patent Office indicating receipt of the Information Disclosure Statement and the references cited thereon. Also enclosed herewith for the Examiner's benefit is a copy of the originally filed Information Disclosure Statement. The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge receipt of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement and enter them into the prosecution record of the present application.

Claims 10, 11, 14, 16, 17 and 19 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Spatz et al. Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spatz et al in view of Humphries et al. Claims 13, 15, 18 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spatz et al and Humphries et al and further